

*Library*



**Longridge Urban District Council**



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

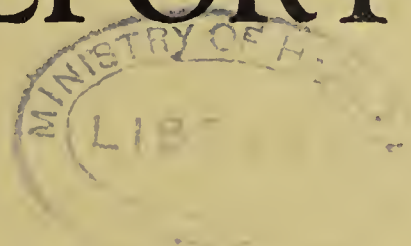
of the

**Medical Officer of Health**

and

**Sanitary Inspector**

Year Ended 31st December, 1953





L O N G R I D G E   U R B A N   D I S T R I C T   C O U N C I L

-----ooOoo-----

1953/54

Chairman of the Council :-

Councillor J. Smith

HEALTH and HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

Chairman :-

Councillor E.C. Oakes

Vice-Chairman

Councillor G. Shuttleworth

Members :-

Councillor E.J. Melling   Councillor F. Singleton

Medical Officer of Health

J. WALKER, M.B., ChB., D.P.H., L.D.S., also  
Divisional Medical Officer to the Health Division No. 4  
Lancashire County Council and Medical Officer of Health to the Chorley  
Borough Council, Adlington, Leyland and Withnel Urban District Councils  
and Preston Rural District Council.

Sanitary Inspector

V.N. Page M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.  
also Cleansing Superintendent.



Health Department,  
Berry Lane,  
Longridge.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the  
Year ended 31st December, 1953.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Council of the  
Urban District of Longridge.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Smith and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year ended  
31st December, 1953.

The report is on the same lines as in previous years. It should be mentioned, however, in regard to Vital Statistics that changes were brought into force in 1953, having the effect that deaths in certain types of hospitals and institutions are no longer transferable to the place of usual residence of the deceased. Since there are no hospitals or institutions in this District, however, the Vital Statistics should not be materially affected.

The number of births registered in the District during the year was 14 fewer than in the previous year, giving a birth rate of 18.0 per 1,000 which still compares favourably with the rate of 15.3 for the country as a whole.

Deaths from all causes are 10 more than in the previous year, giving a crude death rate of 11.0 per 1,000 as against a rate of 11.4 for England and Wales.

The number of infants who died before reaching one year of age was three, as compared with 5 in the year 1952.


Once again it is pleasing to report that there were no deaths of women attributable to child-birth.

There were no deaths from tuberculosis during 1953. The previous year there was one death from this cause.

In regard to infectious diseases, the number of cases notified was 54 as compared with 103 in the previous year. Only 4 cases in the District were notified as suffering from the food-poisoning which affected so many people in the surrounding areas. There was one case of poliomyelitis, but no cases of diphtheria were notified.

On the whole I think it can be said that the health of the District during the year under review compares favourably with that of most other Districts.

The Continued prevalence of outbreaks of food-poisoning throughout the Country demands constant vigilance in regard to food preparing premises, but more important still requires a high standard of personal hygiene amongst workers in such premises, and in our own homes.



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2017 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29741373>

In conclusion I wish to express my gratitude to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for the kind consideration shown to me at all times. My thanks are also due to the Officers of the Council for their willing co-operation.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

J. WALKER.





Physical Features of the Area.

The physical and geological features of the area, which have been described in previous reports, remain substantially the same.

Statistics of the Area.

Area in Acres	3,285
Population (Census 1931)	4,158
Population (Preliminary Census 1951)	4,308
Registrar General's estimate of Home Population (Mid 1953)	4,438
Number of inhabited houses (Census 1931)	1,067
Number of inhabited houses (Ratebook 1953)	1,420
Rateable Value 1953/54	27,439
Sum represented by a penny rate 1953/54	£111

Social Conditions and Amenities of the District.

There have been no changes worthy of comment in the Social Conditions and Amenities of the Area.

Vital Statistics.

Births

<u>Live Births -</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate ... ..	42	37	79
Illegitimate ... ..	-	1	1
Total	42	38	80
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population ... ..	18.0		
<u>Still Births -</u>			
Legitimate ... ..	1	1	2
Illegitimate ... ..	-	-	-
	1	1	2
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	24		

Table of Vital Statistics  
Live Births, Deaths and Stillbirths

	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths	
	No. Regis- tered	Rate Per 1,000 Pop'n	No. Regis- tered	Rate Per 1,000 Pop'n	No. Regis- tered	Rate Per 1,000 Total Births
Year 1953	80	18.0	49	11.0	2	24
" 1952	94	21.4	39	8.9	1	11
" 1951	86	20.0	63	14.6	1	11
" 1950	76	17.7	47	10.9	2	26
" 1949	67	16.3	57	13.9	3	43
" 1948	100	25.1	60	15.1	3	29
Average 5 yrs 1948 - 1952	84.6	20.1	53.2	12.6	2	24

The birth and death rates shown in the previous and subsequent tables are known as "crude" rates. The Registrar General issues a comparability factor based on age and distribution of population which should be used when comparing the vital statistics of one area with another. The adjusted rates for this area are therefore as follows, allowing for a birth comparability factor of 1.08 and 0.93 for deaths.

Adjusted Birth Rate	19.5 per 1,000/pop'n
Adjusted Death Rate	10.3 " " "

Table of Vital Statistics  
Maternal and Infant Mortality

	Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
			Total Under 1 year		Neo-Natal Under 4 weeks	
	No. of deaths Registered.	Rate Per 1,000 Total Births	No. of deaths Registered.	Rate Per 1,000 Live Births.	No. of deaths Registered.	Rate Per 1,000 Live Births.
Year 1953	Nil	Nil	3	38	1	13
" 1952	Nil	Nil	5	53	2	21
" 1951	Nil	Nil	1	12	1	12
" 1950	Nil	Nil	1	13	1	13
" 1949	Nil	Nil	3	45	⌘	⌘
" 1948	Nil	Nil	1	10	⌘	⌘
Average 5 years 1948 - 1952	Nil	Nil	2.2	26.6	⌘	⌘

⌘ The neo-natal figures are available only from 1950.

Comparative Table of Vital Statistics for  
Longridge, Lancashire and England and Wales.

	Per 1,000 of population		Maternal Mortality	Infant Mortality
	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Per 1,000 Total live & Still Births	Per 1,000 Live Births
Longridge				
Average 5 years 1948 - 1952 ...	20.1	12.6	Nil	26.6
1953 ...	18.0	11.0	Nil	38
Lancashire 1953	14.77	12.17	1.26	29
England and Wales 1953	15.5	11.4	0.76	26.8

Analysis of Causes of Death

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Tuberculosis (all forms)	-	-	-
Malignant Diseases	2	2	4
Leukaemia	-	-	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	4	2	6
Heart Diseases	11	8	19
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Bronchitis	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	6	7
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations	1	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	4	8
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	-	2
	<u>25</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>49</u>

Diseases of the heart were again the dominant cause of death in both males and females.

Deaths from malignant diseases were two less than the previous year.

Bronchitis caused 1 death.

Vascular lesions of the nervous system produced 6 deaths. These deaths include all forms of "strokes".

There were two deaths resulting from a motor vehicle accident.



# Infantile Mortality

There were three deaths of infants under 1 year as compared with five in the previous year. This gives an infantile mortality rate of 38 per 1,000 live births as compared with 53 the previous year. The infantile mortality rate for England and Wales as a whole is 26.8. The causes of death of the three infants are given below.

<u>Sex.</u>	<u>Age.</u>	<u>Cause of Death.</u>
Male	40 minutes	Respiratory failure Intracranial haemorrhage.
Female	5 months	Multiple pyaemic lung abscesses.
Male	1 month	Pylorospasm. Repeated vomiting since birth.

## Tuberculosis

The table below gives age and sex distribution of the new cases.

Age Periods Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1								
2								
5								
10								
15								
20								
25								
35	2			1				
45	1							
55	1							
65								
75 upwards								
Totals	4			1				

There were no deaths from respiratory tuberculosis in 1953 or from non-respiratory causes.

The death rates per 1,000 of population from this disease are, respiratory 0.00 and non-respiratory 0.00. The comparative figures for England and Wales are 0.18 and 0.02.

There were five primary notifications (4 respiratory and 1 non-respiratory) during the year 1953.

There was a total of two persons removed during the year for the following reasons.

Left district	1
Recovered	<u>1</u>
	<u>2</u>

The number of people on the Register at the end of the year under review is shown below.

Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
Male	Female	Male	Female
6	7	3	10
Totals 13		13	

Comparative Table of Tuberculosis Death Rates  
for Longridge, Lancashire and England and Wales

	Per 1,000 of Estimated Population.		
	Death Rate from Respiratory Tuberculosis	Death Rate from Non- Respiratory Tuberculosis	Death Rate from all forms of Tuberculosis
Longridge Average 5 years 1948 - 1952	0.20	0.00	0.20
1952	0.23	0.00	0.23
1953	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lancashire 1953	0.18	0.02	0.20
England and Wales 1953	0.18	0.02	0.20

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

### Laboratory Services

The Laboratory of Preston Royal Infirmary was used to examine specimens for the diagnosis of cases of infectious diseases, and for pathological specimens for ordinary diseases, for the bacteriological examination of milks, for tests for Tubercle Bacillus in milks, and for tests for ice cream.

### Hospital Accommodation

Infectious Diseases are normally admitted to the Joint Hospital at Heath Charnock and to Deepdale Isolation Hospital. The number of infectious cases admitted to hospitals in 1953 was 10.

General Disease. Three hospitals were available for patients in this district :-

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| (1) Preston Royal Infirmary   | ) Administered by the Preston<br>and Chorley Hospital<br>Management Committee. |
| (2) Sharoe Green Municipal Hospital, Preston                                |  |
| (3) St. Joseph's Hospital, Mount Street,<br>Preston (For private patients). |  |

Veneral Diseases. Clinics are held at the Preston Royal Infirmary. Advice and treatment are free and confidential.

### National Assistance Act, 1948.

It has not been necessary to recommend the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention as envisaged by Section 47 of the above Act.

It was not necessary to exercise the provisions of the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, though the power was given to take action during the previous year in appropriate cases.

This Act gives local authorities further powers to enable them to deal expeditiously with certain cases of persons in need of care and attention which they are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people. Where the Medical Officer of Health and another registered medical practitioner certify that, in the case of a person to whom section 47 (1) of the National Assistance Act, 1948, applies, it is necessary in their opinion that he should be removed without delay from the premises in which he is residing, an application for a removal order may be made immediately to the appropriate magistrates. Any order made under these provisions is valid for a period not exceeding three weeks.



## COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

There are a variety of Health Services of the Lancashire County Council operated in the area and which are under the control of the No. 4 Divisional Health Committee, 44, Victoria Road, Fulwood, Preston, telephone no. Preston 7263.

### AMBULANCE SERVICE

There are no Ambulance Stations in the area of the Longridge U.D. but the district is covered from other Stations in adjacent districts and generally the Penwortham Ambulance Station is used.

### HOME NURSING AND MIDWIFERY SERVICE

A team of three nurses serve the Longridge and district area. The duties of these nurses include care of patients in their own homes, and they arrange for the loan of nursing equipment in suitable cases. Expectant mothers who are confined at home are also attended by them.

### HOME HELP SERVICE

Home Helps are employed in Longridge and help a variety of cases including confinements, sickness, old age and infirmity, and Tuberculosis cases. Night helps are also employed where needed.

### CHILD WELFARE CENTRE

There is a weekly Child Welfare session held at the School Clinic, 26, Kestor Lane, Longridge, every Tuesday afternoon. A doctor and Health Visitor attend and give advice on infant care and management. Baby foods are also sold at the centre.



### SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE

Medical and hygiene inspections are carried out at the School Clinic, 26, Kestor Lane, Longridge. Clinic sessions are held for a variety of treatments including minor ailments, dental care and ophthalmic conditions. The County Council make special provisions for residential schooling for various categories of handicapped children such as the blind, partially sighted, deaf and dumb, epileptics, delicate and backward.

### CONVALESCENT CARE

In suitable cases arrangements are made for the admission of patients to convalescent homes.

### WELFARE SERVICES

Residential homes are provided to accommodate elderly and infirm persons who have no longer anyone to adequately care for them. Handicapped persons are also assisted.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The table below gives an analysis of notified cases.

	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic	Food Poison- ing	Totals
Under 1	-	3	3	-	-	-	6
1 - 2	1	4	1	-	-	-	6
3 - 4	5	6	2	3	-	-	16
5 - 9	2	8	6	-	-	-	16
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	1	-	-	-	-	2	3
25 - 34	-	2	-	-	1	2	5
35 - 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total cases all ages	9	23	12	5	1	4	54
Total Deaths	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total cases removed to Hospital	8	1	-	-	-	1	10

Measles notifications were lower than the previous year being 23 compared with 96. Whooping cough was more prevalent there being 12 notifications which was 11 more than the previous year.

Diphtheria was again absent from the District, the last notified case being in 1944.

The total notifications of 54 cases of infectious disease compares with 103 in 1952.

The 4 cases of food poisoning occurring in the district were part of a very large outbreak attributed to meat pies and affecting a considerable area of the County of Lancashire and the County Borough of Preston.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk.

Most of the milk retailed in the district is Tuberculin Tested some of which is Farm Bottled, which means that the milk is produced and bottled at the farm of production and therefore outside the Control of the Local Authority in respect of cleanliness.

The method of ensuring that clean milk is in fact retailed in the area is to take samples of milk on the streets and submit them for a bacteriological analysis. Any milks found to fail the required standard are referred to the County Milk Production Officer of the Ministry Agriculture and Fisheries for any action he may wish to take. In addition to the action outlined above a letter of information is also sent to the milk producer.

During the period under review no pasturised or sterilised milk was retailed in the district.

Report on Milk Samples.

The results of the samples of milk submitted for bacteriological examination and biological tests are shown below.

Test carried out	No. of samples Taken	No. passed	No failed
Methylene Blue Reductase	26	22	4
Bacillus Coli	26	21	5
Tubercle Bacillus	34	34	-

The County Sampling Officer for the district took 18 samples of milk in the district to be examined for adulteration and fat deficiency. Of these 15 were genuine. The result of the other 3 samples and action taken is shown below.

<u>Sample No</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
1 formal milk	Deficient of 16.6% fat, 17.4% solids-not-fat. Freezing point indicated the presence of 15.3% of extraneous water.	}
1 formal milk	Deficient 14.8% solids-not-fat. Freezing point indicated the presence of 13.1% of extraneous water.	



1 formal milk	Deficient of 26.6% fat, )	Same Vendor.
	16.9% solids-not-fat. )	Prosecution.
	Freezing point indicated )	Vendor fined
	the presence of 15% of )	£12 and 7 guineas
	extraneous water.	costs.

### MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Inspections were made regularly of all premises where food was prepared, sold and stored.

Approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  cwt of meat and other foods were voluntarily surrendered to the Sanitary Inspector as unfit for human consumption.

The County Sampling Officer also took the following 8 samples of other foods for laboratory examination.

1 Lime Juice Cordial	1 Flour Confectionery
1 Orange Squash	1 Malt Fruit Cake
1 Cloves	1 Cod Liver Oil
1 Dried Thyme	1 Asprin Tablets

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine.

### Ice Cream.

Four samples of ice cream were submitted to bacteriological tests and subsequently graded into the provisional grades for cleanliness.

The following table shows the results of these tests since their introduction in 1947 following the Ice Cream Heat Treatment Regulations.

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Grade 1	4	12	5	11	3	3
Grade 2	1	6	3	1	-	1
Grade 3	3	4	4	-	1	-
Grade 4	3	5	3	2	-	-
Totals	11	27	15	14	4	4

Grades 1 and 2 are regarded as satisfactory but grades 3 and 4 usually indicate some fault in the method of production. Attention is drawn to the increased purity of this product since 1948 as shown by the above figures.

WATER SUPPLY.

I am indebted to Mr: E.C. Oakes, M.Inst.C.E., M.Inst.W.E., Engineer and Manager to the Preston County Borough Council for providing the following information.

The water supply to Longridge is controlled by the Preston Corporation Water Department and is an upland surface water collected from the Longridge Fell, it is of good quality and there was no restrictions upon the use of water during 1953, there being a full and continuous supply to all consumers.

The following table shows details of the water consumption in gallons during the twelve months ending 31st March, 1953.

	Domestic	Trade	Total
For Year	53,350,000	22,000,000	75,350,000
Average Per Day	141,644	54,795	196,439
Average Per Head Per Day	31.85	13.12	44.97

These figures are inclusive of an estimated population of 300 in the Whittingham district, or in all, 4,600 persons.

The Laboratory for the Waterworks is situated at Longridge where week by week checks are made upon the chemical and bacteriological characteristics throughout the year.

In the case of water supplied to Longridge 10 bacteriological examinations and 4 chemical analyses were carried out all of which were found to be satisfactory.

The following is a chemical analysis of a sample of water taken in Longridge on 26th March, 1954.

	<u>Parts per 1,000,000</u>
Total solid residue (Dried at 180°C)	72.0
( in 15 mins.	0.08
Oxygen required to oxydise ( in 3 hrs.	0.10
Ammonia - Free and Saline	0.122
" - Albuminoid	0.15
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.03
" as Nitrites	Nil
Chlorides	12.0
Temporary hardness	Nil
Permanent hardness	36.0
Total hardness	36.0
pH Value	7.2

Physical Properties                      Colour 9 Hazen.                      Odourless.

Remarks:                      The sample is satisfactory.

The following is a bacteriological examination of water taken from a Longridge tap on the 13th April, 1953.

Temp. of water at time of collection                      46°F

Remarks                      pH 7.3

Colour 5 Hazen

Organism growing on Yeastrel Agar, per 1 m.l. of water.

Cultivated for 3 days at 20° - 22° C	34
"                      "                      2                      "                      37° C	2

Coli-Aerogenes Bacteria

Found in	0	m.l.
Not found in	100	m.l.

McCrady - No. per 100 m.l.                      0

Sub-cultured to 44°C : Positive faecal B. Coli                      0  
Organisms of the I.A.C. Group 0

The results are satisfactory.

#### Supplies to Houses.

There were 30 houses newly connected during the year, 28 of these being new houses built for the Local Authority and 2 for private ownership.

At the end of the year the number of dwelling houses connected to the public mains were 1,360 serving an estimated population of 4,223. There are no houses in the district served by means of a standpipe.

#### General.

The water has no liability to plumbo-solvency and the analyses show no contamination occurred during the year.



# DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Permission has been given by the Minister of Housing and Local Government to go out for tenders for the proposed new trunk sewer to relieve the flooding that has occurred in the past in Mersey Street and Preston Road.

The negotiations are still in progress for the proposed joint Sewage Scheme with Preston County Borough, Fulwood Urban District and Preston Rural District. When the proposal is carried out the Longridge sewage will be carried through to the treatment works on the River Ribble at Lea.

## Sanitary Accommodation.

The following comparative table shows the position for dwelling houses.

Type of Accommodation	1920	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Freshwater Closets	493	1132	1203	1274	1293	1303	1367
Waste Water Closets	400	306	281	242	232	212	199
Pail Closets	31	84	80	80	80	77	77
Privy	95	17	17	17	17	17	17
Bath	N.A.	546	583	610	634	642	677

N.A. = Not Available.

## PRIVATE STREETS AND BACK PASSAGES

The following streets were completed in 1953.

Irwell Street. Wheatsheaf Avenue.

## SCHOOLS

The total number of schools in the District remains at five and is as follows :-

County Primary and Junior School	Chapel Street
Senior C. of E. School	Berry Lane
Junior C. of E. School	Berry Lane
St. Wilfrid's R.C. School	St. Wilfrid's Terrace
St. Michaels and All Angels School	Preston Road.

There is every indication that the local representatives on the Divisional Education Committee are fully alive to the need for still more schools.

### HOUSING

The following table shows the number of new houses completed during the year.

	Prefabricated		Traditional Permanent Houses	Flats
	Temporary	Permanent		
By the L.A.	Nil	Nil	28	Nil
By other L.A.'s	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other bodies or Persons	Nil	Nil	2	Nil

Fourteen Bungalows intended to house elderly persons were commenced during the year and will be ready for occupation early in the year of 1954.

Of the eight cases of overcrowding reported during the year, six were relieved providing alternative accommodation for 40 persons.

Six self contained flats have been provided by the acquisition of a large house under the Housing Act, 1949 after suitable reconstruction has been carried out.

### FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND BAKEHOUSES

The Factories Acts are administered by two separate bodies - Local Authorities and H.M. Inspectorate. The degree of control exercised by the local authority varies with the type of factory i.e., whether or not there is mechanical power installed. A close liason is therefore maintained with H.M. Inspectors on such matters.



The following tables show the administration of the Factories Act, 1937, within the district.

Type of Factory	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Non-mechanical	9	18	-	-
Mechanical	34	47	-	-
Building sites	3	10	-	-
Total	46	75	-	-

	Defects		Cases referred		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	to H.M. Insp.	by H.M. Insp.	
Want of cleanliness.	8	7	-	-	Nil
Overcrowding	Nil	Nil	-	-	Nil
Unreasonable Temperature	Nil	Nil	-	-	Nil
Inadequate Ventilation	Nil	Nil	-	-	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors	Nil	Nil	-	-	Nil
Sanitary Conv. (a) Insufficient	2	1	-	-	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	3	-	-	Nil
(c) Not separate sexes	Nil	Nil	-	-	Nil
Total	14	11	-	-	Nil

New Legislation

The acts, orders and regulations controlling many aspects of public health work are constantly changing and the following list, whilst not exhaustive, shows some of the relevant new legislation which came into operation during the year under review.

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.

Cream and Use of Milk (Revocation) Order, 1953.

The Milk and Daries (Amendment) Regulations, 1953.

The Milk (Special Designation) Pasteurised and Sterilised (Amendment) Regulations, 1953.

Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1953.

Slaughter of Animals (Pigs) Act, 1953.

Health Department,  
Berry Lane,  
Longridge.

The Sanitary Inspector's Report  
for the year 1953.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Council  
of the Longridge Urban District

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Smith and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the following report on the Sanitary work of the Health Department.

The report follows the policy of the previous year in giving the information in tabular form where possible and the figures for other years are included for the purpose of comparison.

Though the routine work does seem to escape notice and comment, it is essential for the well being of the district that such work should be carried out. Refuse collection and Rodent Control are but two of the important services which would cause serious disorganisation if there was a breakdown.

The collection and sale of salvage continues to be a worthwhile effort and the figures reveal that the saving on the rates is again of some consequence.

Details of Inspections.

The inspections made during the year totalled some 1027 the details of which are set out below. Most of the nuisances were abated by contacting the responsible people personally, others were dealt with by letter and in only one case was it necessary to serve a statutory notice.

Bakehouses, Butchers and Greengrocers Shops	80
Drainage	152
Factories	75
Food Inspections	52
Farms, Daries and Milkshops	44
Inspections under Housing Acts	15
Ice Cream Premises	4
Infectious Diseases	65
Offensive Trades	0
Inspections under the Public Health Acts	200
Licenced Premises	35
Refuse Collections and Disposal	95

carried forward

Rodent Control	117
Schools	3
Shops	57
Smoke observations	20

### Housing.

The repairing of older houses still constitutes a problem when considering the cost and economical life of the property. The high cost of new houses makes the improvement of the stone built houses of the district an attractive proposition which will no doubt be more popular when new legislation is passed to assist owners in these works of improvement.

The problem to be faced today is the rented house with a low rental which cannot be repaired and improved economically or because of its proximity with its neighbour. These houses because of their close and confined position must be dealt with under the Housing Acts now that the general house building programme is making up the lack of house building during the war years.

No applications were made under the Housing Act 1949 Part ii for improvement grants.

### Repairs.

Repairs to houses were carried out by informal action either by contacting the owner or by letter, and 22 houses were rendered fit as a result. In only one case was it necessary to serve a statutory notice under the Public Health Act, 1936 to get the necessary work done and in no case was it found necessary to take legal action.

### Demolition.

Notices have been served under section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 in respect of two houses which are substandard in a remote area and without essential services.



RODENT CONTROL

There is no alteration from past years to the service provided by the Local Authority for Rodent Control.

The public co-operate well with the Health Department and infestations are at a minimum, publicity in the past has no doubt helped the ratepayer to know the procedure to take when rats or mice are found.

Dwelling houses are treated free as in the past, charges continue to be made in respect of commercial undertakings.

The table below shows the work carried out for the 15 months ended 31st March, 1954.

The reason for the extra 3 months figures is to coincide with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries change of policy in making the year ending 31st March for Local Authorities to submit their reports under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

		Type of Property				
		Local Authority	Dwell- ing House	Agricultural	All other (incl. Business Premises)	Total
Total number of properties		4	1359	61	135	1559
Number of initial inspect.		4	203	33	93	333
Number of Infested Properties	Rats	4	14	9	4	31
	Mice	2	23	-	3	28
Number of treatments by Local Authorities		4	37	9	8	58

The sewers in the district have received treatment where previous test baiting has revealed that infestation has occurred.

In the six monthly treatments carried out 18 manholes received treatment showing 7 partial and 4 complete takes.

The Council's properties including the Sewage Works and the Thornley Tip have been regularly treated and the use of Antu on the tip has provided very good results, there being a much greater period elapsing before reinfestation occurs.

Drainage and Sewerage.

All alterations and reconstructions of drains have been supervised and inspected and the standard of work carried out in the district is generally good.

The work of converting the insanitary waste water closets is proceeding steadily but not fast enough. There are still far too many of these fittings in the district few of which work satisfactorily and none of which are free from offensive odours.

Owing to the number of farms and houses which are not on the sewage system or have not a septic tank system it is still necessary to provide a pail closet emptying service.

The two areas mainly requiring this service are Dilworth Bottoms and Alston Lane.

During the year 13 waste water closets have been converted to fresh water closets.

Infectious Diseases.

All houses where scarlet fever occurred, new cases of tuberculosis and removal of tubercular cases were disinfected together with the bedding.

Library books are dealt with at the Council Office depot.

Bedding, beds and parcels of clothing belonging to occupiers of deceased relatives are destroyed on request, usually following death by cancer.

Inspection of Meat and other foods.

Inspections and supervision of all food premises is maintained and with one or two exceptions are generally satisfactory.

The undermentioned foods were found to be unsound and unfit for human consumption and in each case was voluntarily surrendered by the shopkeeper.

<u>Description</u>	<u>No. of tins</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>ozs.</u>
Apricots	4		7	3
Beef Loaf	2		1	12
Calves Tongues	1			12
Corned Beef	1		6	-
Grapefruit	1		1	4
Milk, evaporated etc.	14		21	14
Ox Tongues	4		13	8
Peaches	3		5	10
Peas	3		3	9
Pilchards	5		5	-
Pork Luncheon Meat	7		5	4
carried forward		2	15	12

<u>Description</u>	<u>No. of Tins</u>	Cwts.	qrs.	lb.	ozs.
	Brought forward		2	15	12
Salmon	1				4
Shrimps	1				4
Tomatoes	1				8
			2	16	12

Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951  
Section 14.

The above Act relates to the registration of hawkers of food and their premises. Two hawkers and their premises are registered.

The Act only applies where the hawker does not operate from an open shop.

Milk and Ice Cream.

Milk Supply.

The following are the details of registered distributors and actions taken with regard to the administration of the Milk and Daries Act and Regulations.

No. of registered distributors operating from :-

1. Dairy farms in the district	3
2. Daries in the district	Nil
3. Shops in the district other than daries	Nil
4. Premises outside the district	6

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949 -

No. of dealers' licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the local authority during 1953 in respect of	"Tuberculin Tested Milk 5 "Accredited" Milk Nil
---	--

It was not found necessary to revoke or refuse to grant a licence during the year.

The above does not include producer retailers carrying on business in the district who are not required to be registered with the Local Authority.

Ice Cream.

The following details are given in respect of the number of licences issued for the manufacture sale or storage of ice cream, under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 14.

Manufacture and Sale	5
Storage and Sale	13



PUBLIC CLEANSING

House and Trade Refuse Collection and Disposal

Collection. The usual weekly collection of house and trade refuse has been maintained throughout the year with the exception of some Bank Holidays and one annual holiday week. The difficulty of maintaining this weekly service has been more acute this year due to the large increase in sickness in the staff and only by the help of the Surveyor in providing extra help has the work been able to continue. In a small Authority similar to Longridge it is vital that complete co-operation is achieved, and I am happy to say that this has been the result in the past.

The end of the year saw the delivery of a new Bantam Carrier 7 cub. yd. Refuse Collector, the other machine having completed almost seven years of trouble free service. The fact that no major breakdown occurred and not more than 2 half days of refuse collection were lost in the six and a half year period of service due to the breakdown of the vehicle proves the worthwhile policy of constant care and maintenance.

Disposal. Controlled tipping methods continue to be used on the Thornley Tile Kiln Tip though it is becoming difficult to find suitable top soil for final coverage, however, every load that is capable of being utilised is saved for topping.

No serious infestations of rats or insects have occurred during the year, the methods of control adopted have proved to be successful and adequate.

Salvage. It is pleasing to report that the weight of salvage collected during the past year has increased and that again the profits made are a welcome addition to the rates. The ratepayers are to be congratulated for their response to appeals and the staff thanked for their efforts in collecting it.

One of the greatest contributions to successful collection has been the regular times that the salvage and refuse has been collected each week. The housewife knows within half an hour when the workmen will be calling and can place the salvage in readiness.

It is usual to compare the weight of waste paper collected with other authorities by the weight per 1,000 population per month and it is interesting to note in the following tables that in 1946 the collection was 10.1 cwts. per 1,000 per month and that this year the collection is at the rate of 34 cwts per 1,000 per month, being an increase on last years figures which were 24.2 per 1,000.

One of the reasons for the difference between the 1953 and 1952 figures is the fact that in 1952 we had some curtailment in the amount of paper we could send to the Thames Board Mills, and approximately 10 tons of paper collected in 1952 was not sent in until 1953.

The price of paper paid by the Thames Board Mills has again dropped, but now appears to be more stable. It is not considered possible that any great change will occur in the near future.



The following is a summary of the Collection and Disposal of Refuse and Salvage during the financial year ending 31st March, 1953, together with figures for the preceeding financial year ended 31st March, 1952 and other figures of yeild and disposal for comparisons.

Estimated weight of Refuse and Salvage Collected.

	1952/53			1953/54		
	T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.
House and Trade Refuse	933	3	-	904	8	-
Salvage	75	-	-	96	9	1
	1008	3	-	1000	17	1

Cost of Collection and Disposal

	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54
	£	£	£
Refuse Coll.	919	1,005	1137
Motor Transport	531	517	752
Tip Maintenance etc.	109	243	150
Salvage Baling			
Cost of Bonuses	327	468	277
	1886	2,236	2,316
Less Income			
Trade Refuse	11	10	17
Salvage Sales	1502	711	777
	373	1,515	1,522

Weight of Salvage Collected and Sold.

	1952/53				1953/54			
	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Mixed Paper	30	14	2	12	39	11	1	-
Books and Magazines	6	8	2	-	10	17	-	-
Newspapers	10	7	2	-	17	3	2	-
Fibreboard	15	16	1	16	22	16	1	-
Ferrous Metal	7	19	1	-	4	1	1	-
Non-Ferrous Metal		5	1	16		2	2	13
Textiles	3	10	1	26	1	17	1	25
	74	19	-	14	96	9	1	10

Value of Salvage Sold

	1952/53			1953/54		
	£	s	d	£	s	d
Mixed Paper	248	18	10	234	11	3
Books & Magazines	64	12	-	92	4	9
Newspapers	119	5	11	168	19	9
Fibreboard	145	10	7	197	6	9
Ferrous Metal	23	6	-	12	2	6
Non-Ferrous Metal	30	18	10	14	6	7
Textiles	77	14	4	57	2	8
	710	1	-	776	14	3

The table below gives the yield of waste paper per 1,000 of population over the past eight years.

Weight per 1,000 population per month	
	Cwts.
1946	10.1
1947	15.8
1948	25.0
1949	23.0
1950	28.5
1951	27.5
1952	24.2
1953	34.0

Gross Income from Salvage for the past 10 years.

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs.	Lbs	£	s	d
1944	26	7	-	-	155	10	--
1945	26	9	1	-	173	4	1
1946	23	16	-	-	155	16	11
1947	40	2	-	-	278	6	8
1948	64	4	1	-	553	3	6
1949	68	11	1	-	543	3	6
1950	81	8	2	-	749	7	4
1951	80	-	2	-	1,474	5	1
1952	74	19	-	14	710	1	-
1953	96	9	1	10	776	14	3
Total	582	7	-	24	5,569	12	4

- - - - -  
CONCLUSION

May I tender my thanks and appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their interest and support.

My thanks are also due to my fellow officers and staff for their co-operation, and I express my appreciation to Dr. Walker for his guidance and support.

-----oOo-----

I am, Mr. Chairman Mrs. Smith & Gentlemen,  
Yours obediently

V.N. PAGE  
Sanitary Inspector.





